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Fort Wayne Catholic
community center



The
Fort Wayne
Catholic
Community Center



Jefferson at Barr Streets



Fort Wayne, Indiana
1927



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*The Catholic
Community Center*



A Community Home
for every Man and Woman,
every Boy and Girl
in Fort Wayne and Environs

Foreword



C. M. Niezer

IN dedicating the Catholic Community Center, with all its vast equipment, for the use of the people of our city, we wish to emphasize the spirit of community service in which the project was conceived and to which it is now dedicated.

At the time the campaign for funds, necessary to make the project a reality, was launched, it was intended to direct the appeal only to the Catholic people of the city. The public announcement of the project brought such a cordial response from the public generally, regardless of church or fraternal affiliations, that popular acceptance of the project as a community endeavor was immediately indicated. This fine spirit of ac-

ceptance and co-operation was evidenced by the fact that approximately five thousand people voluntarily subscribed to the fund. This general response on the part of the public stamped the project with the character the promoters intended it to have, that of an instrumentality of community service. This spirit of mutual co-operation, neighborliness and toleration, evidenced by the response of the public in subscribing to the fund is a fine testimonial to the spirit of community interest on the part of the people of our city, and we dedicate our completed project as a mutual pledge of the continuance of this community feeling throughout the coming years.

In this spirit we now dedicate this great project in its completed form as a reality. The facilities of the Community Center and its management will be broad enough to include within its benefits, all the people of our city, regardless of religious or fraternal affiliations. We wish to reciprocate the cordial feeling of neighborliness which was so manifest in our initial effort to make this project a reality. We want all the people of our city to feel that they are a part of this great institution.

C. M. Niezer

President

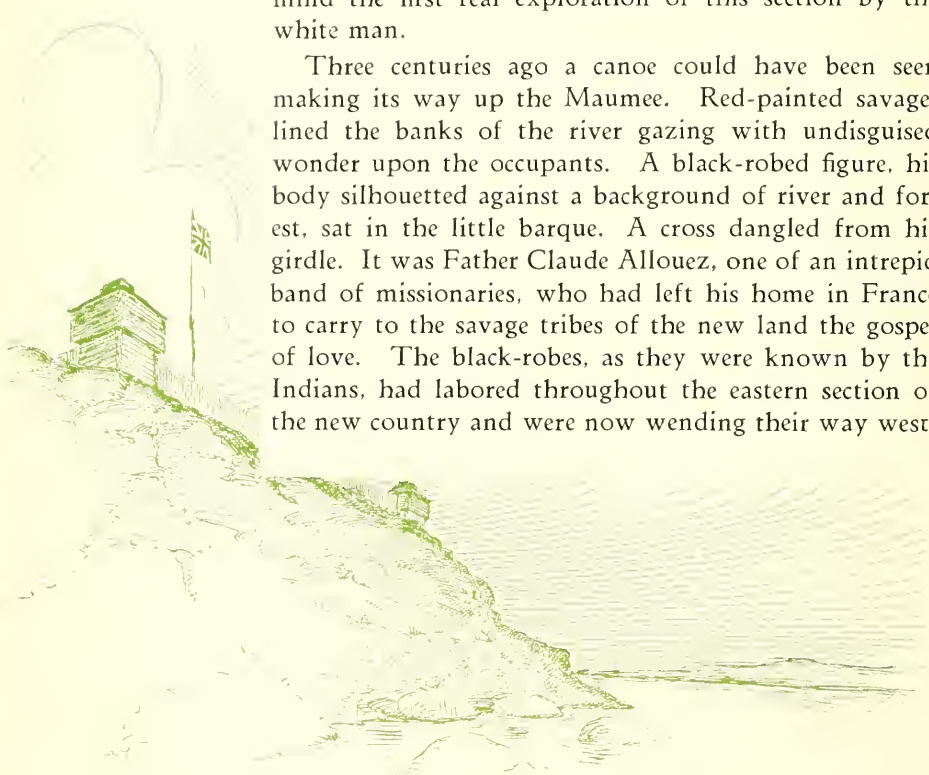
Catholic Community Center Association.

AUG 1 1940

Yesterday and Today

HISTORY leaves certain distinguishing marks that are indelibly impressed upon the locality around which it is woven. Looking over the pages of time to the days when the village of the Kiskakons, later known as Kekionga, was located in the northeastern section of Indiana, we note that the first appellations not of Indian origin, were those of the two rivers that form the source of the Maumee. They are the St. Joseph and St. Mary's, both obviously Catholic names, calling to mind the first real exploration of this section by the white man.

Three centuries ago a canoe could have been seen making its way up the Maumee. Red-painted savages lined the banks of the river gazing with undisguised wonder upon the occupants. A black-robed figure, his body silhouetted against a background of river and forest, sat in the little barque. A cross dangled from his girdle. It was Father Claude Allouez, one of an intrepid band of missionaries, who had left his home in France to carry to the savage tribes of the new land the gospel of love. The black-robos, as they were known by the Indians, had labored throughout the eastern section of the new country and were now wending their way west-

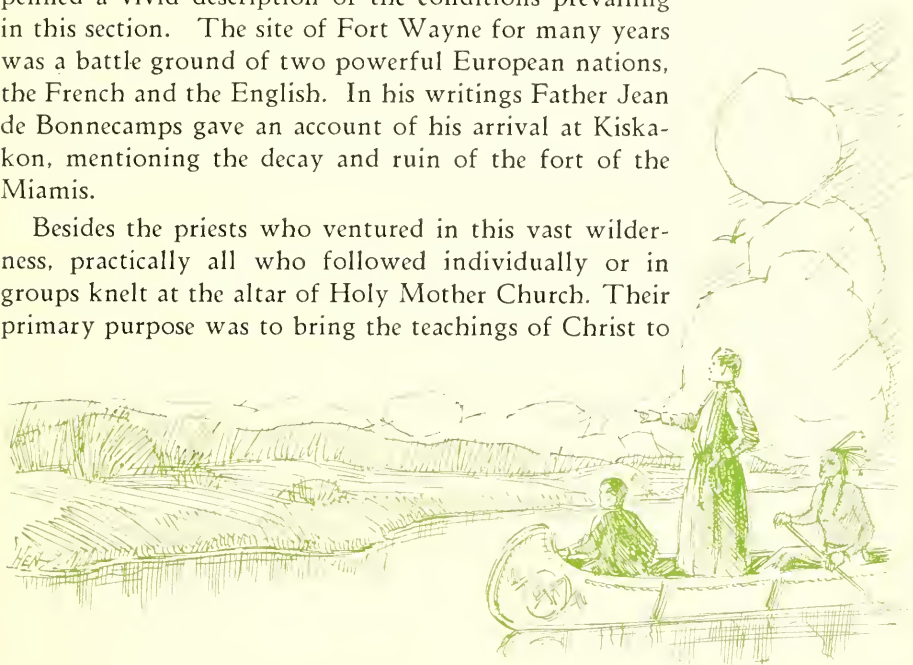


ward. These missionaries, many of whom sacrificed their lives, zealously and undauntedly strove to civilize and Christianize the Red Man. The records of the early Jesuit fathers relating to the first explorations are the most complete and it is from them that the greatest knowledge of the first white people is obtained. These records were kept at the various missions which the Jesuits established.

While white adventurers traversed this section prior to the coming of the missionaries, these Wood Rangers, as they were known, wielded an influence that had but transitory value. It was the purifying services of the Jesuit Fathers, their noble deeds and sacrificial acts, that made a lasting impression upon the locality.

In 1723 Father Gabriel Marest, a French missionary, penned a vivid description of the conditions prevailing in this section. The site of Fort Wayne for many years was a battle ground of two powerful European nations, the French and the English. In his writings Father Jean de Bonnecamps gave an account of his arrival at Kiskakon, mentioning the decay and ruin of the fort of the Miamis.

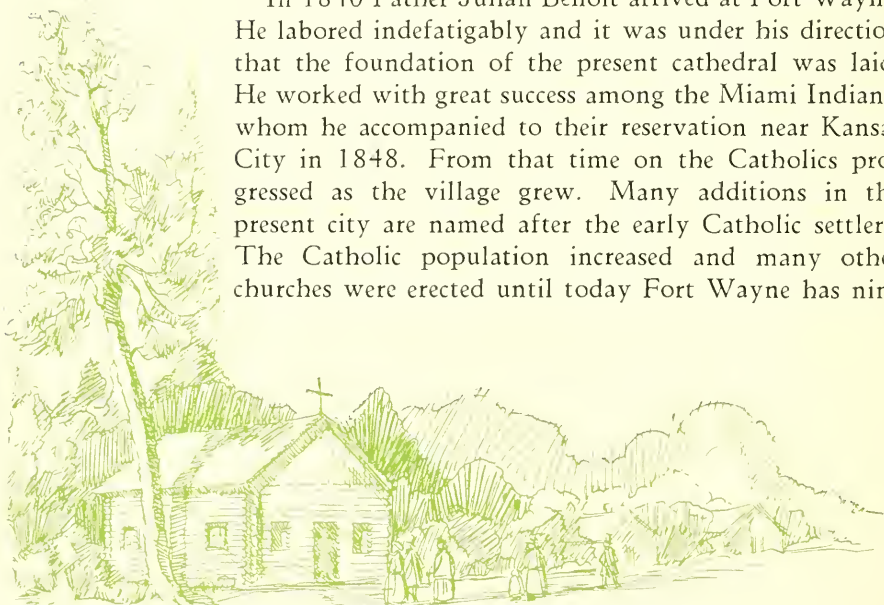
Besides the priests who ventured in this vast wilderness, practically all who followed individually or in groups knelt at the altar of Holy Mother Church. Their primary purpose was to bring the teachings of Christ to



the Indians and secondly to plant the flag of their country in this primeval land. After many years of internecine strife between the settlers from England and France and bloody conflicts between the whites and the Indians, the epochal time came when Anthony Wayne defeated the savages. In 1794 the dedication and building of Fort Wayne took place.

In 1830 Father Stephen Theodore Badin, the first priest to be ordained in the United States, settled here. He was Vicar General of the diocese of Bardstown, Kentucky, and of the diocese of Cincinnati, under the jurisdiction of which Fort Wayne was placed. The site purchased for St. Augustine's Church is where the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception now stands. The church was completed in 1837. It was the first permanent religious edifice built in Fort Wayne.

In 1840 Father Julian Benoit arrived at Fort Wayne. He labored indefatigably and it was under his direction that the foundation of the present cathedral was laid. He worked with great success among the Miami Indians, whom he accompanied to their reservation near Kansas City in 1848. From that time on the Catholics progressed as the village grew. Many additions in the present city are named after the early Catholic settlers. The Catholic population increased and many other churches were erected until today Fort Wayne has nine



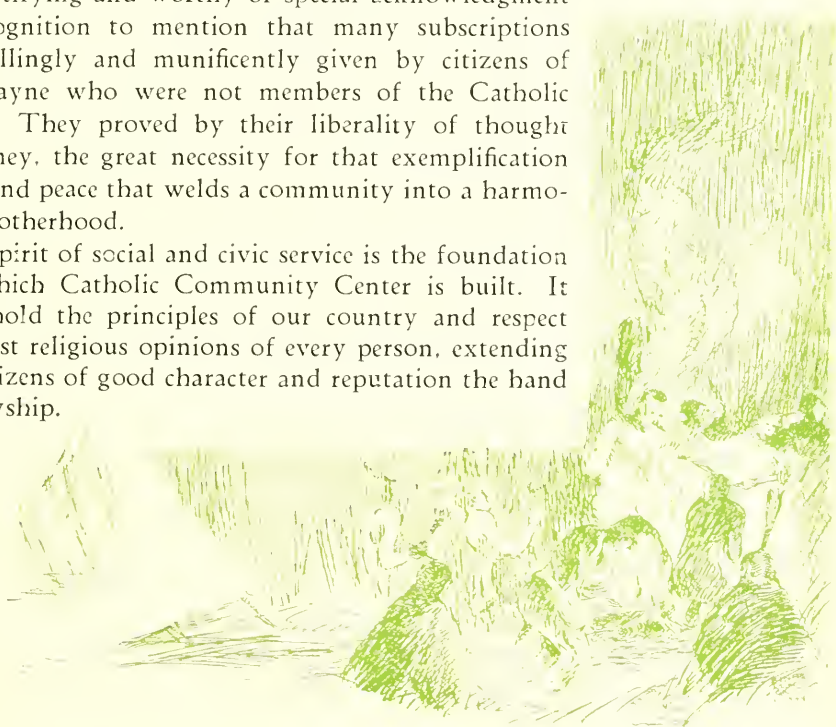
beautiful Catholic churches, besides schools, academies, a high school, an orphan asylum and a hospital.

While Fort Wayne was growing in population the people of all religious beliefs worked in harmony. Many civic causes were fostered and institutions given birth through the generous co-operation of the entire populace. Numerous lodges and associations were established.

In the year 1899 a charter was granted to the Knights of Columbus, which organization later conceived the idea of a Catholic Community Center.

While Catholics contributed a major portion of the fund to make this Civic Center possible, it is particularly gratifying and worthy of special acknowledgment and recognition to mention that many subscriptions were willingly and munificently given by citizens of Fort Wayne who were not members of the Catholic Church. They proved by their liberality of thought and money, the great necessity for that exemplification of love and peace that welds a community into a harmonious brotherhood.

The spirit of social and civic service is the foundation upon which Catholic Community Center is built. It will uphold the principles of our country and respect the honest religious opinions of every person, extending to all citizens of good character and reputation the hand of fellowship.



The Catholic Community Center Association



Bishop Alerding

THE seeming fantastic dream of a few far-sighted practical men nearly two decades ago became a vivid reality when the doors of this magnificent Catholic Community Center swung open April 21, 1927.

Through years of saving and wise property investment, assisted by a substantial donation by the late Louis Fox, Fort Wayne Council No. 451, Knights of Columbus, had accumulated property and a building fund of approximately \$100,000. In 1923 the Council voted to turn over this fund and real estate to an unaffiliated body of men who organized as the Catholic Community Center Association. With its own project, this association included plans for another vitally important institution, a home for girls, as originally proposed by the Daughters of Isabella. The Rt. Rev. Herman J. Alerding and the reverend pastors readily gave their sanction to the work with the additional promise that they would aid to bring

it to a successful conclusion. Upon his succession to the see of Fort Wayne, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John F. Noll, D.D., also gave his whole-hearted approval.

The following year the articles of incorporation were signed at a meeting in the Anthony Hotel by the late Bishop Alerding, Rt. Rev. Msgr. J. H. Oechtering, V. G., Rev. H. F. Joseph Kroll, Rev. Joseph F. Delaney, Rev. Charles Thiele, Rev. Thomas M. Conroy, Rev. H. A. Hoerstman, Rev. Basil A. Didier, Charles M. Niezer, Harry G. Hogan, William H. Noll, Dr. H. O. Bruggeman, Al Riegel, John J. Disser, John W. Eggeman, Gustave A. Berghoff, Joseph F. Miller, Martin J. Grace, Joseph C. Hutzell, Stephen A. Callahan, John Suelzer, Jr., Frank J. Gilmartin, Robert E. Kelly, Frank L. Freiburger, J. Herman Bueter, C. Byron Hayes, George M. Haffner, William S. O'Rourke, Sr., J. Stephen Weber, Edward J. Disser, William J. Lennart, Julian F. Franke, Alex A. Kartholl, Thomas A. Hayes, Charles D. Nolan, Frank J. Mills, Matthew C. Drennan.

From November 11 to 18, 1923, a remarkable campaign for funds was held under the able leadership of Charles M. Niezer, chairman. Encouraged by the untiring zeal of the late lamented Stephen A. Callahan, campaign director, through the generosity of the people of Fort Wayne, the workers in this drive raised \$593,000, exceeding the quota by \$18,000. The contracts for the building were signed on April 14, 1925. Ground was then broken and after nearly two years, the great work of erecting this civic center was completed. Surely, everyone who worked in this noble cause must now feel the satisfaction of a worthy task well done.



Bishop Noll



In Memory of
STEPHEN A. CALLAHAN
"Our Brother"

Whose Untiring Efforts Made Possible This Catholic
Community Center.

1890-1926

OFFICERS



J.F. Miller



C.M. Niezer



A.A. Kartholl



J.J. Disser



R.L. Fitzgerald



J.V. Egan



F. Freiburger

Original Incorporators

Rt. Rev. Herman J. Alerding	Matthew C. Drennan
Rev. J. H. Oechtering	Rev. Charles Thiele
Rev. H. F. J. Kroll	Rev. Thomas Conroy
Rev. Joseph F. Delaney	Rev. H. A. Høerstman
Charles M. Niezer	Rev. B. A. Didier
Harry G. Hogan	John Suelzer, Jr.
William H. Noll	Frank J. Gilmartin
Dr. H. O. Bruggeman	Robert E. Kelly
Al Riegel	F. L. Freiburger
John J. Disser	J. Herman Bueter
John W. Eggeman	C. Byron Hayes
Gustave Berghoff	George M. Haffner
Joseph F. Miller	William S. O'Rourke
Martin J. Grace	J. Stephen Weber
Joseph C. Hutzell	Edward J. Disser
Stephen A. Callahan	William J. Lennart
Charles D. Nolan	Julian F. Franke
Frank J. Mills	Alex A. Kartholl

Thomas A. Hayes

Present Directors

Charles M. Niezer	John Suelzer, Jr.
Harry G. Hogan	Robert E. Kelly
William H. Noll	Frank L. Freiburger
Dr. H. O. Bruggeman	J. Herman Bueter
John J. Disser	C. Byron Hayes
Joseph F. Miller	George M. Haffner
Martin J. Grace	Alex A. Kartholl

Robert L. Fitzgerald

Late Director

Stephen A. Callahan

EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE



J.H. Suelzer, Jr.



F.J. Gilmartin



Martin J. Grace



Dr. H.O. Bruggeman



Al Riegel



Gustave A. Berghoff



G.M. Haffner



Wm. H. Noll



H.G. Hogan



J.H. Bueter



J.C. Hutzell



C.B. Hayes



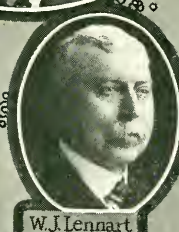
R.E. Kelly



J.W. Eggeman



W.S. O'Rourke



W.I. Lennart



J.S. Weber



J.E. Franke

THE ORIGINAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Also Included the Officers

Catholic Community Center Association Committees

CHARLES M. NIEZER,
General Chairman

Building

Stephen A. Callahan
Charles M. Niezer
J. Stephen Weber
Martin J. Grace
John J. Disser

Equipment

Thomas Kelly
Robert L. Fitzgerald
Joseph F. Miller
Othmar N. Heiny
James F. Keenan

Personnel

Robert L. Fitzgerald
Maurice C. Niezer
W. G. Spaulding
John Suelzer, Jr.
Al Becker

Callahan Memorial

Charles D. Nolan Alex A. Kartholl Joseph F. Miller
Harry G. Hogan Harry W. Flannery

DEDICATION

ALEX A. KARTHOLL, General Chairman

ADOLPH JAENICKE, Vice-Chairman CHARLES MANETT, Secretary
JOHN J. DISSER, Treasurer

HARRY W. FLANNERY, Publicity
THOMAS A. HAYES, Program
CHARLES D. NOLAN, Souvenirs
FRANK M. HOGAN, Invitations
HENRY OTTEN, Banquet
JOHN J. RISSING, Music
C. McLAUGHLIN, Grand Ball

JOHN KAPPEL, Decorations
MAURICE C. NIEZER, Reception
JOHN G. KRAMER, Hotels
JACOB HARTMAN, Traffic
W. P. SCHENKEL, Transportation
MARTIN J. CLEARY, Athletics
HARRY KENNERK, Speakers

MEMBERSHIP

FRANK J. GILMARTIN, Chairman

George M. Deininger
J. Herman Bueter
Adolph Keller

Joe Till
C. E. Huttinger
Jerry Crowley

Leo M. O'Brien

Program

For Dedication of Fort Wayne's Catholic Community Center
April 21 to 24, 1927

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

- 10:00 A. M. Blessing of the building by the Rt. Rev. John F. Noll, D.D., Bishop of Fort Wayne, and attendant priests. (Private.)
- 1:30 P. M. Dedication program, Community Center Auditorium.
Orchestra, Jimmy Bowersox's Musical Pirates.
Address of Welcome, by Charles M. Niezer, President of the Catholic Community Center Association.
Response on behalf of the City of Fort Wayne, by the Hon. William C. Geake, Mayor of Fort Wayne.
Response on behalf of the Catholic citizens of Fort Wayne, by the Rt. Rev. John F. Noll, D.D., Bishop of Fort Wayne.
Dedication Address, by the Hon. David I. Walsh, United States Senator from Massachusetts. To be broadcast over radio station WOWO.
Finale: "The Star Spangled Banner."
- 7:00 P. M. Civic banquet. Community Center Auditorium.
Music, Earl Gardner's Orchestra.
Toastmaster, Charles M. Niezer, President of the Catholic Community Center Association.
Short Addresses by:
The Hon. William C. Geake, Mayor of Fort Wayne.
Sylvanus B. Bechtel, past President of the Fort Wayne Young Men's Christian Association.
The Rev. Louis N. Rocca, President of the Fort Wayne Ministerial Association.
Arthur M. Hall, President of the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company.
The Rabbi Samuel H. Markowitz, Achduth Veshalom Temple.
Robert Koerber, Vice-President of the Fort Wayne Young Men's Christian Association.
The Rt. Rev. John F. Noll, D.D., Bishop of Fort Wayne.
The Hon. David I. Walsh, United States Senator from Massachusetts. To be broadcast over radio station WOWO.
Finale: "The Star Spangled Banner."

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

10:00 A. M. General Opening. All parts of the building open to the public.

Music and entertainment.

8:00 P. M. Grand Ball and Special Features.

Music by Earl Gardner's Orchestra and Jimmy Bowersox's Musical Pirates.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Women's Day

10:00 A. M. All sections of the building open to public.

Music and entertainment.

2:00 P. M. Musical tea, Community Center Auditorium.

7:00 P. M. Formal Opening of the Athletic Departments of the building.

Swimming exhibition in the Natatorium by the University of Notre Dame swimming team, headed by Edward Brennan, captain. The team includes a Fort Wayne young man, Thomas McKiernan, and several holders of collegiate swimming records. Fancy diving and inter-team contests.

7:30 P. M. Address by Thomas Mills, assistant director of athletics at the University of Notre Dame, in the main gymnasium. Athletic Events by the Turnverein Vorwaerts, directed by Henry Meyer and George Weberus.

Three boxing bouts by boxing teams from the University of Notre Dame, headed by Pat Canny, former collegiate middleweight champion of Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky.

Bowling meet between teams representing the Lincoln Life Insurance Co. and the Catholic Community Center on the Community Center bowling alleys.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

Out-of-Town Visitor's Day

10:00 A. M. All sections of the building open to public.

2:30 P. M. Concert by Philharmonic Society of Fort Wayne under direction of O. E. Richard, director of the choir of the First Methodist Church and of the C. C. Schlatter Orchestra.

APRIL 25 to 27

Devoted to events and inspection for the Juveniles and Children.

Fort Wayne's Million Dollar Community Center



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY CENTER offers to every Fort Wayne person just what the name implies,—a Community Home. It is the presentation of a whole Catholic community, with the voluntary assistance of many non-Catholics, to the entire citizenry of Fort Wayne and its environs, whether man, woman, boy or girl, whether Catholic or non-Catholic, for their meeting, entertainment, education and physical development.

This institution is Fort Wayne's Community Center.

No effort has been spared in making this building as complete in its conveniences and as attractive in its appointments as such a building should be. Actually, no other city in the country has an institution similarly established and similarly operating. No other city has a Catholic Community Center, though we may expect that the Fort Wayne institution may be the forerunner of other like institutions throughout the nation.

Fort Wayne's Community Center stands on the southwest corner of Jefferson and Barr streets, close enough to the business part of the city to be conveniently accessible to it, and far enough away to escape its rush. The building stands five stories above ground and two under ground and is so constructed that one section is devoted entirely to women and girls, with entrance on Barr street, and another portion is devoted to the boys' quarters with entrance at the extreme west door on Jefferson street.

Architecture Gothic

The architecture of the building is Gothic, a style invariably chosen for expressing the aspirations of idealism. It is fire-proof, with faces of buff brick trimmed with Indiana limestone, the limestone predominating at the entrances and in crockets at the parapets. The steps and wainscoting of the entrance lobbies and the trim for interior stairways are of Tennessee marble. Terrazzo floors have been built into the lobby and corridors.



COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM

Interior architecture and furnishings have all been selected in conformity with the Gothic style of the building. Light fixtures, for instance, are of antique gold and wrought iron in the Elizabethan manner, a style evolved in the latter part of the Gothic period and hence eminently fitting as a liaison between the early Gothic manner of the facade and the modern intention of the building.

One of the most beautiful of interior trims, figured red gumwood, which is especially attractive because of its intricate grain, was chosen for the woodwork. It is stained to match walnut. The walls in the building are in varying colors, some stippled in tones ranging from brilliant hues to faint tints, but all selected with a view to the purpose and harmony of the complete room.

As you enter the building through the east door the main lobby with its walls of soft blue presents a restful view. In harmony with the English Gothic ornamentation of the walls are the massive davenport and chairs in heavy Jacobean style, covered with patterned tapestry and frieze.

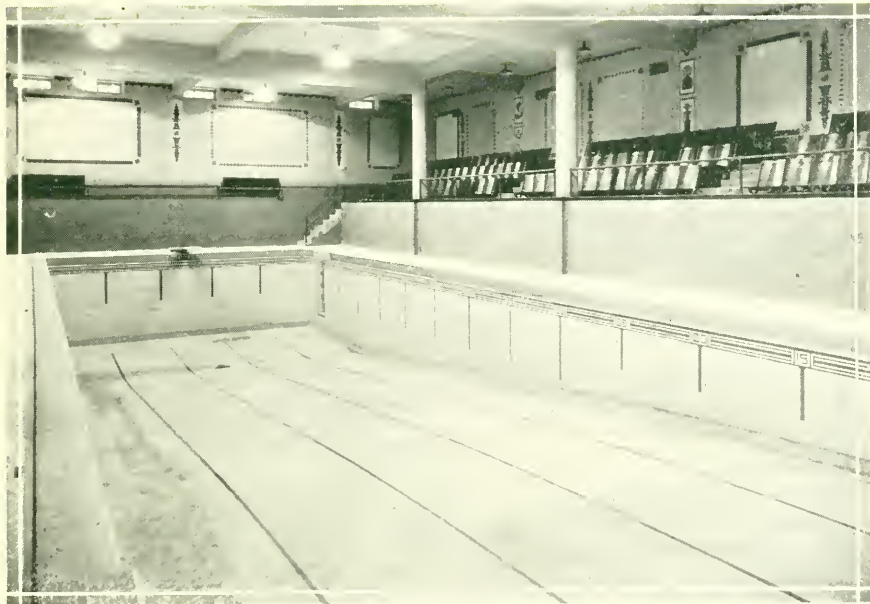


MAIN RECEPTION ROOM

The Reading Room

To the right, with entrance through three large openings, is the reading room. Here the walls are also blue; the rugs are Hartford Saxony with a Hamidan design, sometimes called camel's hair by the Orientals. The ground color of these rugs is tan; figures are in blue, black, gold and rose. At the windows are hand-colored mohair casement cloth with over-hangings of blue velvet, hung from antique walnut poles. The eighteenth century furniture is covered with deep, rich red leather. The point of interest in this room centers about an exquisite Jacobean fireplace, beautifully reproduced, and over which is a bronze tablet in memorial to Stephen A. Callahan, "whose untiring efforts made possible this Catholic Community Center."

On the opposite wall is a beautiful portrait in oils of the Rt. Rev. John F. Noll, D.D., Bishop of Fort Wayne, by a famous artist of Austrian descent, Alfred Ullman of Chicago, presented to the Community Center by Charles M. Niezer.



SWIMMING POOL

The Directors' Room, one of the most luxuriously furnished in the building, also adjoins the lobby, being at the southeast end. The color scheme here is bottle green and old red. Above the beautiful paneling in walnut finish the walls are painted a warm buff color. The rug in this room is also a Hartford Saxony. It has a very deep nap in moss green with gold scroll border. The draperies are green and the chairs are upholstered in red leather.

Two formal parlors with an eastern exposure are off the lobby on the Barr street side. They have walls of two-tone putty color and hangings of putty and mulberry figured damask, trimmed with sage green tasseled fringe. The cornices are of antique walnut ornamented in gold; lambrequins are used to correspond. Hartford Saxony rugs are in these rooms also. The designs are antique Persian Ispahan, with a dark navy blue ground and figures in rose, gold and Persian blue. The furniture is dark walnut, upholstered in colorful fabrics in shades to harmonize with the rugs. One of these parlors is equipped with an Orthophonic Victrola.

The Auditorium

At the west end of the main lobby is a foyer leading to the lobby of the auditorium, which has a direct entrance from Jefferson street. Ample checking facilities are provided on both the first and balcony floors. The auditorium walls are of tan and gold; the lighting fixtures are Elizabethan in inspiration and finished in antique gold. These fixtures have large glass arlanders in the center, throwing a soft glow over the hall. The curtains at the windows and also the stage curtain are of red velvet elaborately embellished by gold braid and heavy fringe tassels.

Fifteen hundred persons may be comfortably seated on the main floor and balcony of this auditorium, which is fitted for theatricals, addresses, banquets, meetings, card parties and dances. The stage is equipped with several beautifully designed settings and is large enough for almost any amateur performance. A grand piano is available for concerts.

The women's dressing room on the first floor is appropriately decorated in the French manner. The walls are rose ivory with panels of grey green; the furniture is painted green and upholstered in a French striped fabric of vivid red and sand. The rug is also green, contrasting beautifully with the curtains of flame colored taffeta.

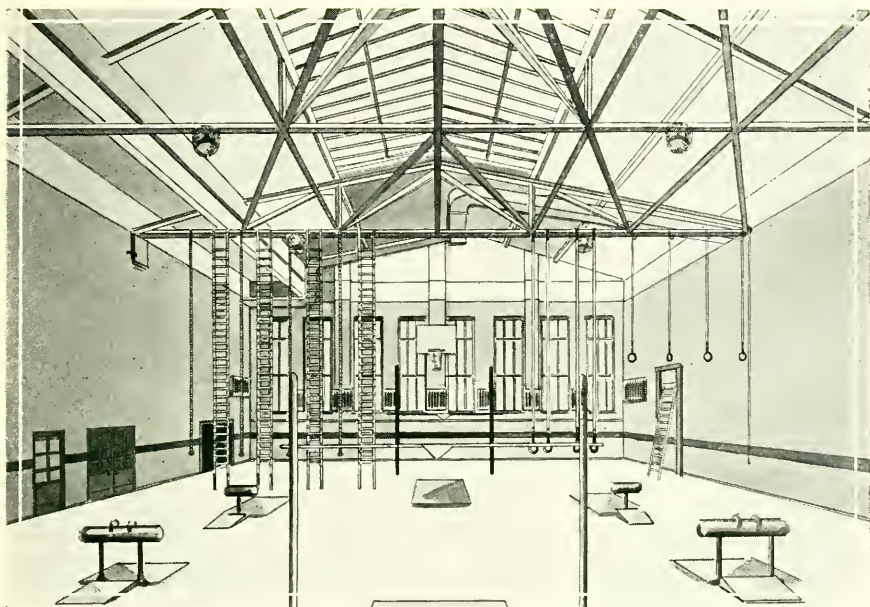
General Reception Room

On the second floor, off the balcony, is the general reception room. This finely proportioned room has walls of warm buff as a background for the exquisite furniture and draperies. The furniture is all English in design, covered with various colored fabrics. The dominating note of red is also carried out in the brocaded chenille hangings, which make a distinctive contrast with the cornice of walnut and gold.

A men's smoking room adjoining the balcony of the auditorium is provided with comfortable leather, upholstered chairs. The walls are treated in a simple, stippled buff shade and the windows are provided with heavy mohair hangings. The rug is a Hartford Saxony with a taupe Jafay center and a border in two shades of taupe and black.

The Natatorium

The swimming pool is one of the few regulation natatoriums in the state, being so constructed that any amateur or professional meet may be held here. The pool itself is seventy-five feet long and twenty-five



MAIN GYMNASIUM

feet wide, with a minimum depth of four feet and a maximum depth of eight and a half feet, which is reached directly in front of the special high-dive board. From this point, the pool basin graduates to eight feet at the southern end. A balcony, providing comfortable seats with an excellent view because of the step system of arrangement, is located on the western side of the pool, and will accommodate several hundred spectators.

The mural design of the pool is especially novel, the decorators here having achieved an Egyptian bath in the brilliant polychromes and fantastic designs characteristic of this style.

The natatorium spectators' entrance is off the main basement level, to the east of the cafeteria lobby, and the swimmers' entrance is from the locker rooms on the basement level.

Two Gymnasiums

There are two gymnasiums, one for general usage by men, women and girls according to schedule, and the other for boys. Each is com-

pletely equipped with apparatus for all athletic and physical needs, and is in charge of a competent physical director and assistants. Regular classes will be held in these gymnasiums. The dimensions of the main gymnasium are ninety-seven feet by sixty-five feet and of the boys' gymnasium, ninety-five by thirty-five feet.

Like the swimming pool, the gymnasium has direct connection with the lockers and showers. Locker accommodations for women in the women's section of the building, and for men in the main section are provided with hot rooms and Turkish baths in connection. These rooms will be equipped with cots, easy chairs, beds and reading tables. The physical director's office and another room for physical examination adjoin the main gymnasium.

Three handball courts are located on the third floor. The dimensions of these courts are each forty by twenty-two feet. They are well ventilated and are provided with a spectators' gallery on the fourth floor level.

Cafeteria and Other Features

Members may also avail themselves of the privileges of bowling alleys, billiard and pool rooms. Six bowling alleys with ample runways, excellent lighting fixtures and a modern ventilating system are located in the sub-basement. These are Brunswick-Balke-Collendar alleys, donated to the center by the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company. The gallery will accommodate three hundred spectators.

A lunch grill and soda fountain, several cigar stands, a completely equipped barber shop and a cafeteria are among other features of the Community Center. The Cafeteria is located directly below the auditorium, with entrance from the main lobby, and has a seating capacity of one hundred and fifty persons. Equipment is completely modern and the plan of the cafeteria has been arranged for the utmost convenience of patrons. Adjoining the cafeteria are three private dining rooms to be used separately, or in case of large dinners to be used in connection with the cafeteria with the folding doors thrown open. The cafeteria and these dining rooms are available for banquets and meetings.

The Council Chamber

In the west wing of the building on the third floor is the Knights of Columbus council chamber. Four private social rooms are adjacent. Decoration of these rooms has made them the most elegant council chambers in the Middle West. The floors are carpeted in a specially



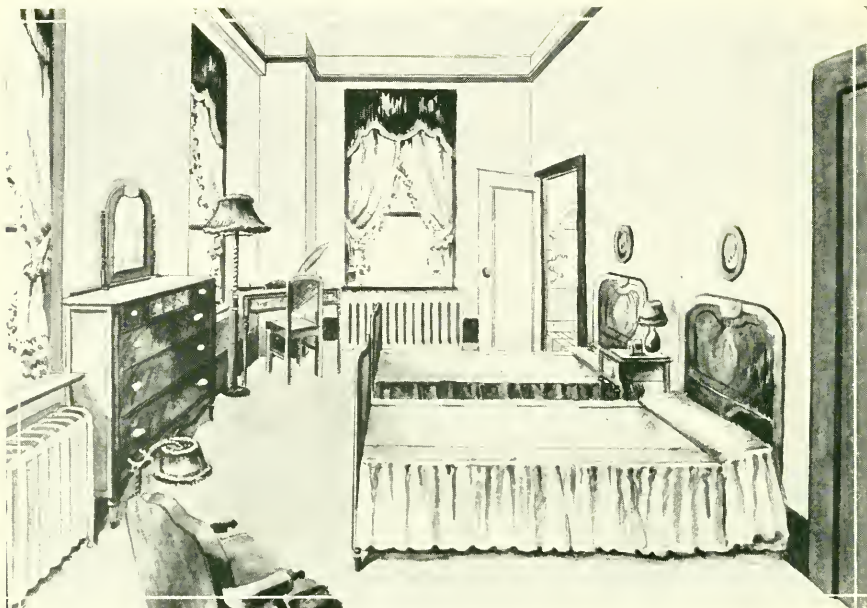
COUNCIL CHAMBER

made design over a lining of heavy Ozite. The walls are in soft greens; hangings at the windows are of rich velvet in ashes of roses, contrasting well with the green walls and the brown mahogany stations. Ornamentation in the furniture is high-lighted in an antique green and gold finish; upholstery is of green leather. The light fixtures here also are of antique gold and specially designed for the room. A balcony is located at the east end of the chamber.

Residence Rooms

Ninety-two residence rooms for men, affording accommodations for one hundred and ten persons, are in the building. These rooms are so attractive and so comfortably furnished that they have elicited the enthusiastic comment of everyone. Located on the second, third, fourth and fifth floors, they all have windows to the outside, securing good ventilation and view.

The rooms, from the standpoint of furniture, convenience and size, give the impression of the best in excellent hotel appointments. The



RESIDENCE ROOM

floors are covered in beautiful and heavy Bigelow Larvell Axminster carpets. The color effect is dark ecru ground with small figures done in dark rose, blue and black. The walls give the appearance of warmth and friendliness reflecting various colors including soft green, orchid, blues and tans. The windows are hung with creamy white Marquisette curtains. The fixtures are substantial and of excellent appearance.

The furniture is in keeping with the best, both in comfort and attractiveness. With the exception of a few extra large rooms, the furniture is similar throughout, including an easy chair, chiffo-desk, bed and telephone in each room. No expense has been spared in providing beds of the utmost comfort. Some of the rooms have individual desks and additional furniture. Rooms are equipped with running water, hot and cold. There are a few rooms on each floor arranged for use in suites which have bath in between. Each floor is equipped with showers and lavatories. The building is also equipped with a special automatic elevator for the exclusive use of the residents. Those living in the building will also find the gymnasium, swimming pool, handball courts, bowling alleys, pool and billiard rooms especially convenient.

These rooms will provide wholesome and comfortable quarters for young men away from home attending school or employed in Fort Wayne. Here worthy young men, regardless of religious affiliation, will find a wholesome atmosphere with every comfort and convenience to cheer them in their lonely and leisure hours. Notwithstanding the high standard maintained in furnishing and equipping the rooms, the rates are very reasonable. Some of the rooms have two single beds, affording an unusually low rate for the individual who wishes to share his quarters with a congenial companion. There are a few extra large rooms, truly handsome in size and appointment, for some who may wish to pay a higher rate. Adequate laundry and maid service will be given.

In wholesome and most pleasant surroundings, in the lobby privileges without extra charge, in the coziness of the private rooms and in general comfort and convenience, the young man who rents a room will find he buys much for which he does not pay.

Other Privileges for Men

The other privileges for men, including the gymnasium, handball courts, swimming pool, auditorium, bowling alleys, pool and billiard rooms, barber shop, library, cafeteria, cigar stand, etc., constitute a program for the constructive physical and mental recreation of the men of this community that few cities are privileged to offer.

There is a physical director in charge of the men with instructors for the various types of work. The organization plan includes physical examinations and the prescribing of a course of gym work to suit the individual needs. Volley ball, handball, bowling, swimming, with their attendant competitive features, as well as boxing, wrestling, horizontal and parallel bars, and other forms of calisthenics and athletics, make the main gym hum with resultful activity.

Women's Section

An entire section of the building has been set aside for the women and girls of Fort Wayne. This section is on the southeast side with a private entrance on Barr street and with four floors of the building devoted to the use of the women.

Immediately to the left of the Barr street entrance is a spacious and handsome office which will be used by the women's secretary in charge of women's activities. Here also is the reception room. On the floor above, the second floor of the building, is a large room, handsomely decorated

and furnished, which has been designated as the Women's Committee Room and which is for meetings, card parties, teas, receptions, and other needs which the women may find for it. This is equipped with a reproducing piano.

The color scheme in this room is old rose and gold, with the rose predominating. This scheme is carried out in the hangings of rose damask and gold, which are hung from decorative cornices; walls of old ivory provide a pleasant harmony. The carpet is a Hartford Saxony with a ground of bright Persian blue and a design of Saronk pattern done in colors of soft rose, Persian green and carmel. The furniture is decorated to make a pleasing ensemble.

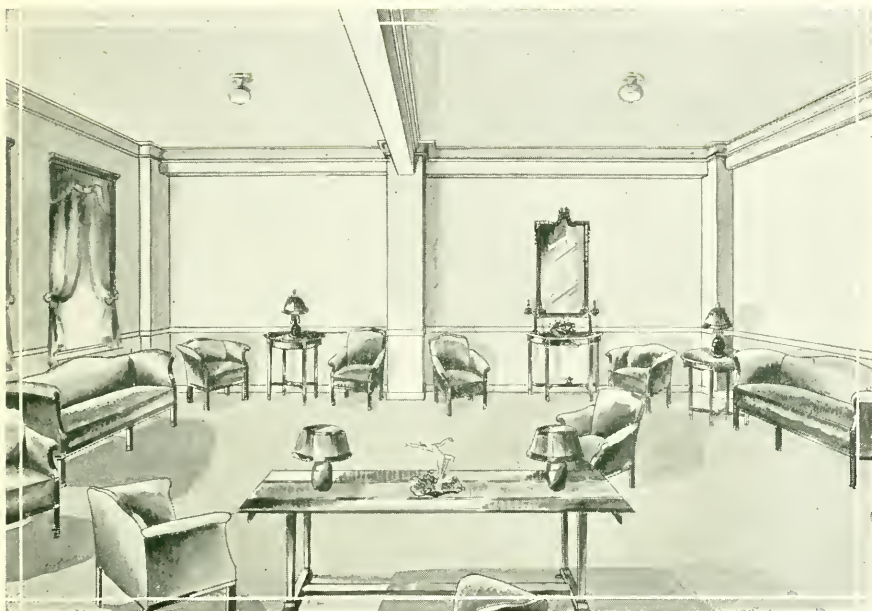
On the basement floor are the dressing rooms, locker and basket rooms, well furnished and equipped for use in connection with gymnasium work. The sub-basement is equipped with a battery of shower baths, dressing booths and lockers. A particularly happy arrangement has been worked out here with the showers separating the dressing booths and lockers. These dressing rooms and showers connect directly with the main gymnasium and the swimming pool, affording the women a private entrance. The women's section is entirely separate and apart from the other sections of the building.

The carpet in the women's rest room in the basement is a Hartford Saxony, of conventional design, with rose taupe ground and figures done in blue, rose, Persian green and black. The carpet in the Women's Reception Room is Persian Saronk with colors of the orient in blue ground with rose, gold and blue scroll design.

The women's quarters are exceedingly well furnished and equipped, with not a detail omitted that would further enhance either beauty or comfort.

The women have their own physical director for gymnasium classes, swimming and general physical instruction. They also have bowling leagues, swimming meets and athletic events of all kinds arranged for and by the women.

The Catholic Community Center provides a headquarters for the various activities of Fort Wayne women. Here are not only adequate facilities for meetings, parties, for athletics; but a delightful place to rest, read or chat while on a shopping trip downtown.



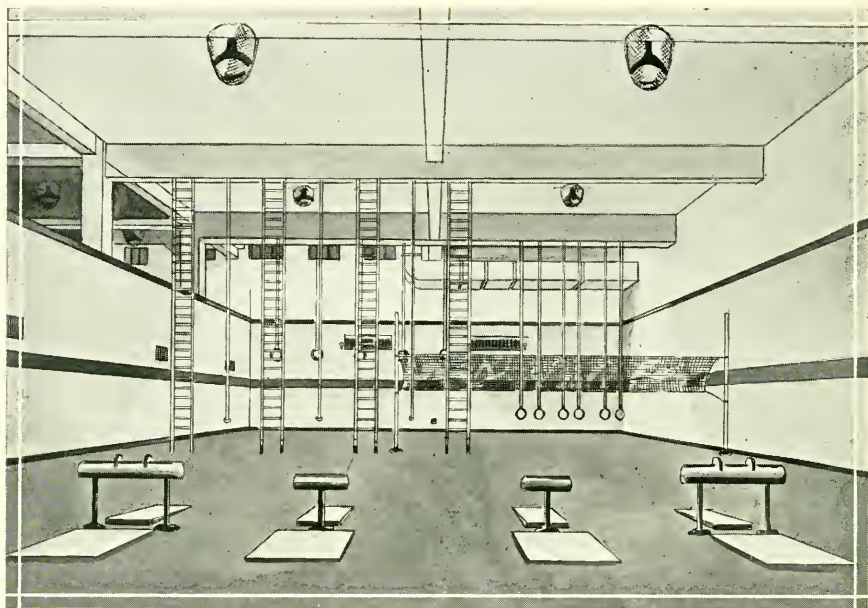
WOMEN'S COMMITTEE ROOM

Boys' Section

In the northwest wing of the building are quarters which will delight the heart of the Fort Wayne boy. This section is separate from the rest of the building, with a private entrance on Jefferson street. Here will be found a special gymnasium for the boys' own use, one hundred and forty-three lockers, a battery of shower baths, pool tables, library and a play room for meetings and games.

The gymnasium is ninety-five feet long, the same length as the main gym, and is thirty-five feet wide. It is thoroughly equipped for all athletic and physical needs with a spacious balcony along the entire east side.

The Catholic Community Center has made a special effort to meet the needs of the boy. Realizing his vast importance as a future citizen of this city, and knowing that well-directed supervision of his leisure time will produce a man of sturdy health, staunch character and unlimited possibility of achievement in our community life, the Com-



BOYS' GYMNASIUM

munity Center has endeavored to provide a program that will result in these ends. Not only does the program include the older boy, but it also includes the boy in his first formative years, the lad from eight to fourteen years old, all under the direction of a man specially trained in boy work, whose experience has shown that he can guide boys to become more useful and happy men.

In its entirety, the Community Center provides a place and conveniences for the wholesome mental and physical recreation of every citizen of the city and its vicinity. The enterprise is planned for the complete advantage of everyone, with the test to membership being that of character only. On April 21, 1927, the doors first opened to receive with open hands, the men, women, boys and girls of our entire community.





